

Autumn Internationals: Blake Switches from Fiji to Australia

The Bradford Bulls center had originally been designated by his nation for their provisional team to contest the Pacific Championships ahead of the Autumn Internationals. Eight competitors, including Blake, have now been expunged from the initial 25-man lineup, while three novel identities, Peni Tagituimua, Ronald Philitoga, and Michael Jennings, have been instated.

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Yet his exclusion from the Fijian roster is for a far more exciting reason: he has been hired to represent Australia this fall in their three-match Ashes series against England. Blake and Nawaqanitawase seemed prepared to play instrumental roles for Fiji in their fixtures versus Papua New Guinea and the Cook Islands.

These three will contend to seize the Pacific Bowl, which will be staged solely in Port Moresby commencing this Saturday as part of the build-up to the Autumn Internationals. This is a second-tier encounter, structured in a round-robin arrangement; the top squad will earn advancement and thus participate in the next edition of the Pacific Cup.

This year's premier Pacific Cup is disputed by New Zealand, Tonga, and Samoa, with Australia omitted because of their previously mentioned Ashes campaign. That competition will include a group phase, culminating in a showdown between the two

leading teams on 9 November in Sydney. Beat the Flying Fijians! is the slogan Wales head mentor Warren Gatland and his veteran players have sent to their squad.

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Autumn Internationals 2025: Gatland Urges Wales to Rebound in Autumn Campaign

The Welsh entertain the Fijians in Cardiff on Monday (Fiji time), and a triumph is vital for their Autumn Internationals 2025 campaign. Wales have now suffered their last nine internationals, with the Test defeat streak extending over a year. That decline has caused Gatland's side to descend to its lowest ranking, 11th in the world.



Wales will oppose Fiji on Monday (Fiji time), 10 November, before confronting Australia a week later, and world titleholders South Africa are slated in Cardiff on 23 November. The Wales delegation assembled last week; defence mentor Mike Forshaw said that reinstating victorious ways is their urgent imperative.

That was something Warren addressed with the ensemble, and several senior players resonated with it, Forshaw told the press. People proposing that Wales had to endure some discomfort by deploying youthful talent in that era is over, Forshaw declared. There is no rationale: we must commence winning contests. That is not just me as a tactician asserting so; the players demand it must be the scenario too.

There's duress on us to prevail, and the players must perceive it. We operate in the realm of winning contests, and we must deliver on a Sunday afternoon in Cardiff versus Fiji. Fiji now resides ahead of Wales in the global rankings, and was routed 57-17 by Scotland last weekend, while Wales has remained idle.

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England Vs Fiji: Rugby Nations Gear Up for Autumn Internationals 2025

We have to execute in Cardiff. I always insist that when you compete at home, we must be the offensive. That is irrevocable. Australia's call-up for Blake has created both excitement and curiosity within the rugby community during the Autumn Internationals. His dynamic playing style, coupled with consistent performances for the Bradford Bulls, has made him a versatile asset for the Kangaroos.

Team officials noted that his inclusion reflects Australia's strategy of blending fresh talent with experienced campaigners as they prepare to reclaim dominance in the Ashes. The upcoming England vs Fiji fixtures are also expected to be fiercely contested, rekindling one of the sport's most traditional rivalries.



Meanwhile, Fiji's management expressed admiration for Blake's progress, describing his selection as a testament to dedication and adaptability. Although his absence slightly alters their tactical blueprint, Fiji remains optimistic about their

Pacific Bowl prospects. With Tagituimua, Philitoga, and Jennings joining the squad, the team's blend of youth and experience could offer renewed energy.

Head coach Wise Kativerata commented that the competition is about more than victory; it's about resilience and national pride. In Wales, Gatland's men are grappling with mounting pressure after enduring their longest losing streak in over a decade. Training sessions this week have been described as intense yet focused, with an emphasis on discipline, precision, and mental resilience.

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